

H/1011(15)/74

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

HISTORICAL
SECTION

Secret

NOTES/CORRESPONDENCE

File No. H/1011(15)/71
Volume

INDEXED.
Subject
Annual Reports - CAIRO (UAR)
1970
Indexed on
Initials

Record A/B Destroy in
Record C.

To be noted
Not to be noted in Sectional Note Book

Initials of S.O. / Suptd

Initials of Clerk

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SCANNED

Previous References

Later References

H/1011(15)/70

(एच. एस. माधवी)
(H. S. MADAVI)
अवर सचिव (ए एंड आर. एम.)
Under Secretary (AAR&M)
विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi

K 20.8.10

राष्ट्रीय अभिलेखागार
रखें
KEEP
NATIONAL ARCHIVES
20.8.10

Secret
F. No. H/1011(15)/71

M. E. A.

Historical Division

R & I Sec.

✓ Dy. No. 178-R/71

SE. No. (1) - Receipt

3 copies of the Consular Report from Cairo may be sent to WANA Division. Forwarding letter is put up for approval.

h
27/11/71

P. M. M. e
27/11/71

A. H. (H. D.)

✓ Dy. No. 718-R/71

SE. No. (2) - Same
SE. No. (3) - Same

Dr. Alabi SRO may please see the Annual Report for 1970 sent from Cairo. Thereafter the file may please be returned to R & I Section urgently.

h
27/11/71

P. M. M. e
27/11/71

A. H. (H. D.)

Dr. Alabi SRO

Seen, Thanks,

Submitted
4.2.71

A. H. (H. D.)

✓ Dy. No. 1146-R/71

SE. No. (4) - Receipt

This is the duplicate copy of the Annual Report from Cairo. Sh. Babbar may kindly see for necessary action.

h
27/11/71

Sh. B.

No action on my part. This is a duplicate copy of the report at SRO (3). The concerned officer Dr. Alabi has seen the report while A alone. Submitted.

h
27/11/71

The duplicate copy of the Report may be destroyed.

Sh. B.

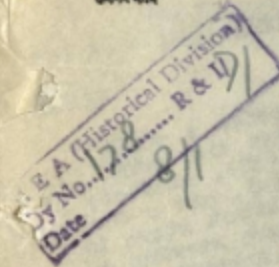


CONFIDENTIAL

EMBASSY OF INDIA
CAIRO

CAI/414/4/CONS/65

January 4, 1971.



SUBJECT:- ANNUAL CONSULAR REPORTS OF THE
MISSIONS/POSTS ABROAD - 1970.

Dear Ministry,

Kindly refer to your letter No. T.414/4/69 dated 28th November, 1969 on the subject mentioned above.

2. One copy of the Annual Consular Report for the year 1970 is sent herewith.



The Ministry of Ext. Affairs,
(Consular Section),
New Delhi.

Encs One

✓ Copy together with five copies of the Annual Consular Report forwarded to the Director, Historical Division, Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi.

Filed in F.No. H/1011(15)/71.

Mr. B. ... kindly see
for ...

Am ... 4/1/71

One copy of the Annual Consular Report
forwarded and distributed to the concerned
offices. It will
Ho
12/1/71

Ami T
12/1/71

Confidential

ANNUAL CONSULAR REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1970.

General

The Indian nationals in the UAR comprise a small business community (26), UN experts (26), Indian Air Force personnel (14), members of the Indian Embassy (38), students (38), Air India (5), Newspaper correspondents (4), and a few others (18). It is only the business community which stays in the UAR on a long term basis, whereas the rest are staying on a short term basis and their number varies. The present strength of Indian nationals including their families is about 450.

The business community is mainly scattered in Cairo and Alexandria. A few families were staying in Suez before the June 1967 war. They have shifted to Cairo and have restarted their business. Most of the businessmen are dealing in curios and antiques while a few deal in jewellery also. They are living freely and are not subjected to any political harassment, discrimination or maltreatment. The June 1967 war has adversely affected their business which mainly depended on tourists. Due to the closure of the Canal, the number of tourists coming to the UAR is considerably reduced. The students, but for two, all are Muslims and study mainly in Al Azhar and Cairo Universities, on scholarships awarded by Al Azhar University, Supreme Council of Islamic studies and the UAR Ministry of Education under the exchange of scholars scheme between the UAR and India. The majority of these students study the Arabic language. Two Indian students are studying medicine. The Indian experts in the UN are doing good and constructive work in their respective fields and are held in high esteem in view of their experience and professional accumen and better grasp of the various problems in a developing country like the UAR. This is the reason that almost all of them are asked to stay on for several terms. The Air Force officers are on deputation to the UAR Government.

Till the end of this year, the consular section dealt with all kinds of Consular and other work in respect of the Yemen Arab Republic also. A new Mission under a Charge d' Affaires has started functioning there.

2. Staff.

The present strength of the Consular section is as follows:-

1. One Assistant - India based.
2. One part-time Steno-typist: She is locally recruited and is employed for typing work. For half the day, she works for the Accounts section.

Besides the consular work, the section looks after the Indian students in the UAR, various schemes of cooperation under ITEC programmes of the Ministry of External Affairs, and distribution of tourist literature.

The volume of work transacted in this section during the year 1970 is as under:-

Month	Receipts ordinary	Receipts classified
January	137	44
February	79	52
March	143	58
April	89	41
May	140	31
June	144	74
July	167	65
August	145	43
September	138	29
October	104	47
November	114	67
December	108	79
	1508	530

All the above receipts have been disposed off. In all, 62 case files were opened during the year.

3. Passports.

Details of passport facilities granted to Indian nationals during the last 5 years are as follows:-

Year	No. of passports issued	No. of emergency certificates issued.	No. of endorsements granted.
1966	234	2	360
1967	192	1	410
1968	176	-	358
1969	131	-	141
1970	123	2	96

Visas

The number of visas granted to foreigners during 1970 and during the preceding 4 years are given below:-

	No. of visas
1966	695
1967	478
1968	476
1969	701
1970	742

The following is the break up of the visas issued in 1970:-

1. Entry visas - 590
2. Tourist visas - 72
3. Transit visas - 80

Tourist materials were also distributed to the visitors for their guidance. They were also apprised of the customs formalities, health requirements and other general information about India. Liquor permits were issued to foreigners who applied for the same.

5. Attestation & legalisation of documents etc.

62 documents were dealt with.

6. Births, deaths and general registration.

49 Indian nationals registered themselves with the Embassy during the year 1970. The average Indian population (including families) during the year was 450 inclusive of those on tenure stay in the UAR in one capacity or the other.

No. of births registered: 4

No. of deaths : 1. This has not yet been registered because the deceased died without any heir and there was none to pay for registration. The matter has been reported to the External Affairs Ministry.

7. Financial and other assistance.

Nil.

8. Shipping matters.

The section helped an Indian seaman on s.s. Nomikos Ioannis, a Greek ship, in recovering his dues from the owner of the ship. It needed long correspondence and visits to Alexandria before the Indian seaman could get his dues on return to India.

The Embassy also extended the validity of four identity cards of sailors on an Indian ship.

9. Repatriation - Nil

10. Deportation - Nil

11. Miscellaneous services. In addition to the above, the consular section did miscellaneous work connected with the obtaining of exit permits for the departing staff, registration of and obtaining exemption for the non-diplomatic staff of this Mission and their families, visas for other countries as well as non diplomatic officers of the Embassy proceeding abroad on official duty.

S. Narain
(S. Narain)
First Secretary

Dated: 4.1.1971.

APPENDIX

1. Number of cases relating to estates of deceased Indians abroad handled 1

2. Number of passports, visas and emergency certificates issued :

Passports 123
Visas 742
Emergency certificates 2

3. Total revenue from consular services rendered. Rs. 12987.00

4. Total number of Indians repatriated and the amount spent on them Nil

5. Number of Indian citizens stranded abroad to whom financial assistance was granted and the amount of such assistance Nil

6. Number of deportation cases handled Nil

7. Any other information of consular importance which could be usefully incorporated in the annual Report of the Ministry Nil

8.i) Number of Indian nationals working in the Missions/Posts and other International organisations/Institutions :

Excluding family members 76

Including family members 180

ii) No. of Indian nationals other than those mentioned at (i) above. (including family members) 275

iii) No. of people of Indian descent 15

(2)
SECRET

No. HI/1011(15)/71
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
HISTORICAL DIVISION
R&I SECTION

New Delhi, dated the 27th January 1971

Enclosed please find 3 copies of the
Annual Cumulative Report for 1970 in respect of Embassy
Guinea, Cairo for necessary action.

(R.S.D. Chawla)
Section Officer

o/c
Alvade (H.D.)

WANA Division
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi.

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COPY No. 5

No. GAI/101(2)/71.

(3)
M E A (Historical Division)
By No. 71/1 R & D
Date 28/1/71

SECRET

Embassy of India,
Cairo.

January 23, 1971.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1970.

SUMMARY:

No peaceful settlement could be worked out in West Asia. The beginning of the year was marked by a relatively fierce war of attrition in which Israeli planes heavily bombarded the Suez Canal area and a number of military and civilian targets inside the country. This led to a secret visit by President Nasser to Moscow with a view to obtaining better defensive weapons. With the arrival of these weapons, Israeli raids inside the country stopped but a serious confrontation started in the Suez canal zone between Israeli and UAR forces. Israel tried to prevent the installation of SAM-3s in the canal zone. The Americans succeeded in arranging a cease fire between Israel and the UAR in making them agree to ^{Land} resume talks under the UN envoy, Dr. Gunnar Jarring. Immediately after the contacts were made, Israel withdrew from the talks on the ground that the UAR had violated the ceasefire arrangements. The rest of the year was devoted to finding a way out by which peace talks could be restarted. The year ended with the hope that indirect negotiations under Dr. Jarring would be recommenced at the beginning of January.

2. The passing away of President Nasser on Sept. 28 marked a watershed in the history of post-1952 Egypt. His demise created a void in Egypt as well as in the Arab world. The Egyptian leaders collected together and wasted no time in selecting Vice President Anwar Sadat to succeed President Nasser. Subsequently, Mr. Sadat obtained an impressive majority of votes at a national referendum. Mr. Sadat reorganised the government and the party machinery to tackle the problems facing the country. But the voice of Egypt in the Arab world was weakened. In the changed situation, the leaders of the UAR, Libya, Sudan and Syria formed a nucleus of a future Arab federation aimed at achieving Arab unity.

3. The situation in Jordan continued to cause worry. Clashes between Jordanian troops and Palestinian guerrillas which began in July and were brought to an end by the efforts of President Nasser, erupted again towards the end of the year, but with there being no one to bring the parties to a negotiating table.

4. UAR-USSR relations remained close. With the induction of a Conservative Government in the UK, relations with the UK were improved. There was no improvement in relations with America but indirect talks were started and future relations depended upon the outcome of peace talks.

5. Relations with India remained cordial and fruitful to both sides. The UAR cooperated with India at the Lusaka conference of non-aligned nations. It also assured India that it would do its best to see that the Karachi conference of Islamic Foreign Ministers did not provide a forum for the discussion of Indo-Pakistan relations.

...2

6. The internal situation remained peaceful. There was no disturbance at all in the country when President Nasser died. President Sadat showed keenness to solve the problems of the ordinary people and promised that the Govt. would improve health, educational and transport services. The assurance was welcomed by the people.

Domestic Affairs:

7. The internal situation throughout the year remained under control. The Arab Socialist Union continued to hold its meetings at various levels from time to time. The administrative machinery also functioned without any problems. The ability of the party and the government machinery to control the situation was tested when President Nasser suddenly died on Sept. 28. There was no break-down of law and order. Supplies also remained unaffected. The leaders of the ASU wasted no time in deciding upon the candidature of Mr. Sadat to succeed President Nasser. Once the decision was taken, other formalities were gone through expeditiously. Within a matter of two months, the presidential cabinet was reorganised, under Prime Minister Fawzy. The ASU was also reorganised under a new Secretary General, Mr. Abul Nur. To keep the team together, President Sadat appointed two Vice Presidents, Mr. Shafiq and Mr. Sabry. There was in evidence a collective leadership in the country. So far, this team has worked harmoniously. President Sadat kept in touch with the army. He met senior army commanders from time to time and also visited forward units to explain to them the political situation.

8. Prices were kept in check. On coming to power, President Sadat felt that some of the difficulties of the people must be solved immediately. Despite the strains of military preparations, he restored the annual increments which had been held in abeyance. He also sanctioned the payment of annual bonus to government and public project employees. Prices of some essential commodities were reduced by 10 per cent. Prime Minister Fawzy in a policy statement to the National Assembly announced that the Govt. would take urgent steps to improve the health, the educational and transport services. He also stated that the difficulties of the seasonal workers would be given special attention.

9. President Sadat created three national councils as envisaged in the March 30, 1968 Manifesto of President Nasser. These were the National Defence Council, the National Economic Council and the National Civil Defence Council. Steps were taken to complete the organisation of the Citizens War Committees.

External Affairs:

10. The failure of the Rabat Arab summit to provide extra funds and additional military hardware for the war of liberation of the occupied Arab territories made President Nasser think whether Egypt should not chalk out its own independent policy for solving the West Asian crisis. He soon conferred with the leaders of Libya and Sudan and tried to form a tripartite alliance. Israel, taking advantage of Arab disunity, increased its raids over Egypt. Apart from destroying a number of military targets, they also hit at civilian targets, causing destruction to civilian life and property. A factory was damaged just outside Cairo in which more than 80 workers were killed. A school was bombed in the delta in which a number of children lost their lives. The internal situation appeared to be gloomy at this

peace initiative.
Israel and
Jordan also
accepted
the American

time, and President Nasser went to Moscow to secure greater Soviet military support. As a result of this visit, the USSR increased its military aid to Egypt. With the arrival of new Russian weapons, including SAM-3s, and the installation of these missiles in the Nile valley, Israeli raids inside the country were put to an end. As efforts were started to instal the new weapons in the canal zone, Israel intensified its raids over that area with heavy Egyptian casualties. Israelis contended that Russian pilots were guarding the Egyptian air space. They also contended that Russian soldiers were manning the new missile sites. As the size and nature of Russian arms built-up began to change in the area, the Americans took the initiative and presented a new plan which came to be called as the Rogers Plan. President Nasser visited Moscow in July and on return, while addressing the ASU on July 23, announced his acceptance of the American plan. Delegates of the three countries went to New York to meet Dr. Jarring and a new period of cease-fire for three months between Israel and the UAR began on August 8. The Israeli delegate, however, immediately withdrew from the talks on the ground that the UAR had violated the cease-fire arrangements. Israel accused the UAR of introducing additional missiles and other military hardware in the stand-still zone on its side. The US supported the Israeli accusations and assured Israel that it would not let the military balance in the area to be changed against Israel. With the start of US military supplies to Israel, the UAR blamed the US for not keeping its word that as long as the peace initiative remained in force, it would not give any military hardware to Israel. There was a complete stalemate in peace talks. Dr. Jarring went back to Moscow and resumed his post as Swedish Ambassador to the USSR.

11. The situation in Jordan started deteriorating with clashes between Jordanian troops and the Palestinian commandos. These assumed the proportions of a civil war with danger of outside interference. About the middle of September, a large number of Arab leaders assembled in Cairo and they and President Nasser made strenuous efforts to promote a settlement. On September 27, President Nasser succeeded in his efforts. But the strain of negotiations exhausted him and President Nasser suddenly died of a heart-attack on Sept. 28. Vice President Sadat became the new Egyptian President. He announced that he would follow the policy of his illustrious predecessor. He affirmed that the UAR continued to accept the UN resolution of November 22, 1967 and the Rogers peace plan. Ways and means of starting the peace talks under Jarring were discussed. The UAR succeeded in getting a favourable resolution based in favour of its case in the last session of the UN General Assembly. As a result of this resolution, the cease-fire between Israel and the UAR was extended again for another period of three months. By the end of the year, there were good indications that peace talks would be resumed early in January. In the course of a political speech, President Sadat made it clear that he would not extend the cease-fire unless concrete steps were taken for the implementation of the November 22, 1967 resolution. He stated that these steps would have to include the preparation of a timetable for the withdrawal of the Israeli forces. These statements of Mr. Sadat were not taken to imply that he would start a war of liberation on February 6 nor that he would give up efforts for finding a peaceful settlement. President Sadat feared that if serious efforts were not made then the cease-fire lines would become a kind of permanent boundary.

12. UAR-USSR relations remained very close. Both sides exchanged visits of delegations. Top leaders of both countries visited each other's capitals. President Nasser visited Moscow twice during the year.

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The Soviet Premier Mr. Kosygin came to attend the funeral of President Nasser. Russian military aid to Egypt considerably increased. Economic cooperation with the USSR was also expanded. Egyptian leaders expressed their gratitude to the Soviet Union on all occasions.

13. Relations with the UK improved. The new British Govt. stated that the Nov. 22, 1967 resolution of the Security Council meant that Israeli forces should be withdrawn from the occupied Arab territories. The UAR saw this as the beginning of change in British policy towards the area. There were hopes of increased economic cooperation with the UK in the new year.

14. Relations with France continued to remain good. French support to the UAR also remained unchanged.

15. There were numerous economic and cultural contacts with the East European countries. Both sides exchanged visits of a large number of delegations.

16. The UAR attended the Lusaka conference of non-aligned nations. President Nasser himself could not go to Lusaka. Egypt was represented by Foreign Minister Adad. Egypt's participation meant that it continued to believe in the policy of non-alignment.

17. The UAR attended the first conference of Islamic Foreign Ministers which was held at Jeddah in March. It did not like the creation of an Islamic Secretariat but found that it could not completely oppose it. The UAR also attended the Karachi meeting of Islamic Foreign Ministers which was held from Dec. 25 to 28. The country was represented by a delegation headed by the presidential adviser, Mr. Tohamy. The scale of representation at this level was meant to indicate that it did not fully support the idea of such a conference.

18. The Arab world remained disunited. In fact, seven Arab countries abstained from voting on the Afro-Asian resolution on the West Asian crisis which was passed by a majority of votes in the last session of the UN General Assembly. Relations between Iraq and the UAR remained strained. The new Egyptian leadership under President Sadat decided to form a nucleus of future Arab unity with the help of Sudan and Libya. With the change, however, of the Syrian Govt. under Gen. Assad, Syria was admitted to this nucleus. The leaders of these four countries have decided to move cautiously. President Sadat has announced that he would move step by step only. This is due to lack of enthusiasm in Sudan, over-enthusiasm in Libya, instability of the Syrian Govt. and Egypt's reluctance to get involved in the affairs of the neighbouring countries.

Indian Affairs:

19. Indo-UAR relations remained close and fruitful to both sides. The UAR press took keen interest in the developments in India. Economic and commercial cooperation continued.

20. A number of Indian delegations visited the country. Among them there were two Parliamentary delegations. The work of all these delegations was fully appreciated here.

21. Prime Minister Mrs. Gandhi paid a brief visit to Cairo on October 26 on way back home from New York after attending the last UN General Assembly. She was accompanied, among others, by the Foreign Minister and the Foreign Secretary. The Prime Minister was given a very cordial welcome. She was received and seen off by President Sadat, who had also political talks with her. The visit of the Prime Minister was welcomed by the UAR Govt., the local press and the local people as a sign of continued friendly relations between India and the UAR. All in all, Indo-UAR relations were marked by a free exchange of views on matters of mutual interest to both countries.

22. This issues with the Ambassador's approval.

Distribution: As per standard list.

(Signature)
(A.N.D. Haksar)
Controller (Commercial)